

REMARKS

Claims 10-20 stand allowed. Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly state the invention.

Reconsideration and allowance of each of the pending claims 1-20 is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 1, as amended, now more clearly recites the an acquisition timing circuit coupled to said ADC for receiving sample values from said ADC and for generating an acquisition timing signal. As amended, claim 1 recites that said acquisition timing circuit including a plurality of compare functions for receiving and comparing consecutive input signal samples on an interleave with a threshold value; each said compare function including an absolute value function for taking an absolute value of each input sample and said compare function for comparing a respective absolute value with said threshold value; and said acquisition timing circuit including a majority rule voting function coupled to said plurality of compare functions for selecting a timing interleave for said acquisition timing signal. As amended, independent claim 1 is believed to clearly define the compare function and voting function, that is illustrated and described with respect to the acquisition timing circuit of FIG. 5 in the specification, starting at page 6, line 2.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph is respectfully requested in view of amended independent claim 1.

Serial No. 09/804,094

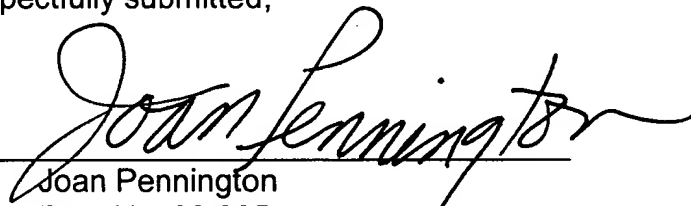
Applicants have reviewed all the art of record, and respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentable over all the art of record, including the references not relied upon by the Examiner for the rejection of the pending claims.

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance and allowance of each of the pending claims 1-20 is respectfully requested. Prompt and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner upon considering this amendment should find that a telephone interview would be helpful in expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Joan Pennington
Reg. No. 30,885
Telephone: (312) 670-0736